

Archives Newsletter

Updates from Barts Health NHS Trust Archives



The exhibition in Guildhall Yard

EXHIBITION: LIFE AND DEATH IN THE ARCHIVES, 1123-2023

Our outdoor exhibition has been in situ for nearly two months now, and will shortly be moving to St Bartholomew’s Hospital Square for the final leg of its tour around the city.

The nine monoliths began in Guildhall Yard showcasing some of the interesting, but perhaps less well known, individuals and stories found in our collections. The feedback we have received on social media has been wonderfully positive, and has led to further engagement with our collections and service. Visitors have commented on the use of marginalia from the cartulary, as well as enjoying the recipes listed in the hospital’s pharmacy ledgers. In addition to showing the hospital’s connection to the City of London and big-name historical events, we hope that the exhibition also shows the personal side to the hospital; from 18th century barber Barbara Adams walking the wards, to Derek Jarman’s entreaty against the closure of the hospital in the 1990s.

With thanks to curator Emma Shepley for uncovering these new stories and striking images from our collections and to the exhibition designers Northover&Brown for bringing it all to life! Let’s not wait another century before we put on another exhibition like this!

Patients, visitors, and staff at St Bartholomew’s Hospital can also see a smaller version of the exhibition in the King George V building for the rest of this year. Come and see the full exhibition in St Bartholomew’s Square from Wednesday 5 July - Wednesday 20 September 2023.



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UCL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT MASTERS PLACEMENT STUDENT

During the first fortnight in May we welcomed Anna Robinson to undertake a two week placement in the Barts Health Archives as part of her Masters programme in Archives and Records Management at UCL.

Anna was given six boxes of uncatalogued material relating to Newham University Hospital. The boxes contained CDs, photos, press cuttings, and annual reports, which Anna sorted and organised before adding it to our catalogue.

The Newham Hospital collection is one of our smaller hospital collections and previously, the catalogued material consisted primarily of patient records. Now, with the addition of these reports, photographs, and campaign materials, researchers will be able to search and access more material on the management and operation of the hospital - great news in the year that Newham celebrates its 40th birthday!

Writing of her placement experience, Anna says - "I absolutely enjoyed my two-week placement at Barts. The team were very welcoming, and I felt like I fit in at the archives. The project I worked on involved arranging and cataloguing Newham Hospital material. I got so familiar with the material, seeing the same faces and events again and again I felt like I'd been at Newham myself. Ginny, Medha and Kate were very supportive hosts, and I had a wonderful time."

We are incredibly grateful to Anna for all her hard work in making these records accessible and available for researchers, and we wish her all the best for the future.

QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY FESTIVAL OF COMMUNITIES

On Sunday 11th June along with Queen Mary Archives and Special Collections we hosted a badge making event at Queen Mary's annual Festival of Communities.

Our badge making event allowed people to make their own badges using designs from the collections or design their own. Children and adults alike displayed their creativity using our collections as inspiration.

The Festival brings together Queen Mary researchers and local community groups to celebrate everything that makes Tower Hamlets a fantastic place to live and work through games, sports, crafts, and other family friendly activities and events.

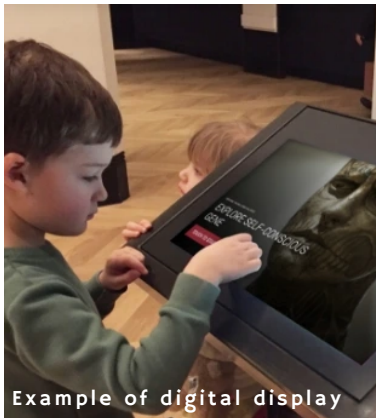


ROYAL LONDON HOSPITAL PROJECT: BRINGING THE COLLECTIONS CLOSER, CALL FOR PARTICIPENTS

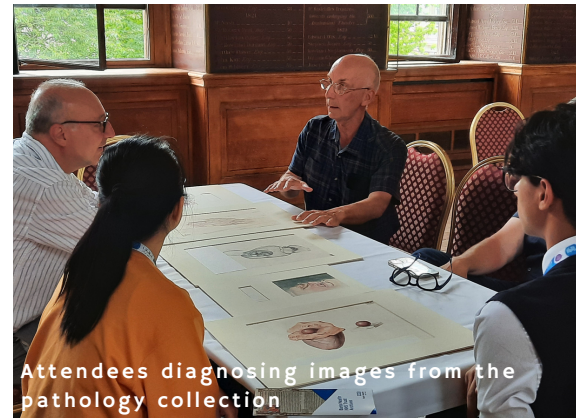
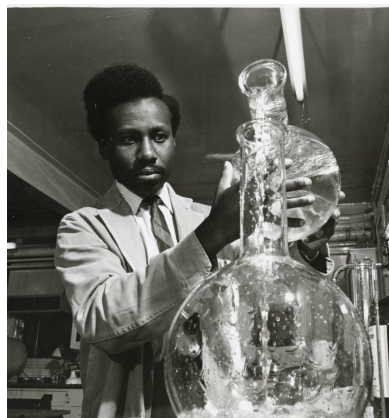
Help us share our stories in new ways! With generous support from Barts Charity, Barts Health NHS Trust Archives are looking for participants for a new project, Bringing the Collections Closer. Join us to help bring the history of the Royal London Hospital into the hospital building by helping curate new interactive displays.

- Learn new research skills by exploring our collections of objects, photos and archive records
- Share your own interests and experiences
- Help ensure that the stories we tell reflect all the communities of the hospital

The project will run through late 2023-and 2024. If you'd like to find out more and get involved, email us barts.archives@nhs.net to find out more and get involved!



Example of digital display



Attendees diagnosing images from the pathology collection

St Bartholomew's Hospital Museum

Please note that works to the North Wing at St Bartholomew's Hospital as part of the [Restoring Historic Barts](#) project will commence this autumn. For the safety and security of visitors and collections, St Bartholomew's Hospital Museum will be closing to the public on Friday 1 September for the duration of the works. For more information please see www.bartshealth.nhs.uk/bartsmuseum.

Other ways to follow our service

To learn more about our collections visit our [website](#) where you can search the Barts Health NHS Trust Archives online [catalogue](#), and find out how to book a visit to the search room at St Bartholomew's Hospital.

Follow Barts Health Archives and Museums on social media:

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